

Attorney Docket No.: 051252-5085
Application No. 09/559,749

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Reg. for
Recon
N. Chapman
2-26-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

William J. IMOEHL

Application No.: 09/559,749

Filed: 30 June 2000

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
A FUEL INJECTOR SEAT

Group Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: Compton, E.

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In reply to the Final Office Action issued 01 November 2002, the period for reply extending through 03 February 2003, reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is requested.

The Final Office Action issued 01 November 2002 has been reviewed and the comments of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Claims 2-4 and 6-10 are pending. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration of these pending claims.

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 60-019957 to Yuji in view of Admitted Prior Art ("APA") and U.S. Patent No. 3,430,388 to Gabrieli.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as Yuji, APA or Gabrieli fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention as a whole. Claim 7 recites a combination of features that includes forming a sealing portion by "[g]rinding with a tool that has a conical end with a vertex of the conical end disposed in the transition portion ... the transition portion provides a volume

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receiving the vertex of the tool so that the vertex avoids contact with the sealing surface and with the transition portion” As described at page 9, lines 10-14, a transition volume is provided so that grinding of a sealing surface at a sufficient velocity to form a desired finish on this surface can be performed. Moreover, as described at page 11, lines 1-25, the grinding of the tool allows for regions adjacent a sealing band to remain undisturbed by action of the grinding tool. In particular, the preferred embodiment of the claimed invention as a whole allows for the grinding tool to form a desired surface finish on the sealing area of the seat while allowing the coated regions, such as, for example, the transition region to remain undisturbed, thereby reducing a tendency of combustion deposits to form in the preferably coated region. Thus, the claimed invention as whole provides for a method that is not contemplated or suggested by the relied-upon prior art to Yuji, APA, or Gabrieli, singularly or in combination thereof.

Yuji states in the Abstract that a conical surface 13 has a coupling surface 15 that smoothly couples the surface 13 to the orifice surface 14 so as to reduce burrs. Yuji, however, fails to describe a specific tool used to form this surface 13. The Office Action relies on the secondary teachings (APA or Gabrieli) of a conical tool and asserts that this cures the deficiencies of Yuji. However, neither of the secondary references teach or suggest grinding a seat surface with the specified conical tool that has its vertex disposed within a transition region of a seat in order to achieve the benefits described above, for example, of the claimed invention as a whole. Absent the teachings in Applicant’s disclosure, there is no motivation or suggestion in Yuji, APA or Gabrieli, singularly or in combination thereof to provide for this feature, as recited in claim 7. Thus, claim 7 is patentable over Yuji in view of APA and Gabrieli, because the relied-upon prior art fails to teach or suggest all features of the claimed invention as a whole, as required by MPEP § 2143.01.

Claims 2-4 and 6-10 depend ultimately from claim 7, and are also allowable at least because claim 7 is allowable, as well as for reciting additional features.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and allowance of the pending claims 2-4 and 6-10. Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (202) 739-5203 if there are any outstanding issues that can be resolved via a telephone conference.

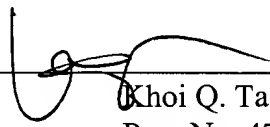
EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Date: 31 January 2003

By: _____


Khoi Q. Ta

Reg. No. 47,300

Customer No. 009629

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004